

WHALEY BRIDGE URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

MEDICAL OFFICER'S REPORT, 1955.

To the Chairman and Members of the
Whaley Bridge Urban District Council.

Mr. Chairman, Lady and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to submit for your consideration the Annual Report on the Health and Sanitary Conditions of the district during the year ended 31st December, 1955. The district as a whole was remarkably healthy and out of the 56 cases of infectious diseases notified, whooping cough and measles accounted for 53. I desire to express to the members of the Council, to Mr. McLane, and the Clerk and other members of the staff, my sincere thanks for their help and consideration.

Statistics and Social Conditions in the Area.

Total Area of Whaley Bridge Urban District (in acres)	-	3,487.
Estimated population (mid 1955).	-	5,300.
Number of inhabited houses at the end of 1955.	-	1,885.
Sum represented by a penny rate.	-	£129.
Rateable Value.		£34,780.

Extracts from Vital Statistics for 1955.

	M.	F.	Total.
Live Births, Legitimate.	31.	28.	59.
" " Illegitimate.	-	-	-
Still Births, Legitimate.	-	1.	1.
" " Illegitimate.	-	-	-
Live Birth Rate per 1000 of estimated resident population.	-	-	11.1.
" " " " " " " " " "			
(In England & Wales)			15.0.
Still Birth Rate per 1000 (total live & still births)			16.6.
Death Rate per 1000 of estimated resident population.			12.07.
" " " " " " " " " " (In England & Wales)			11.7.
Deaths from Puerperal Causes.			Nil.
Deaths of Infants under 1 year of age.	M.	F.	
Legitimate.	-	0.	1.
Illegitimate.	-	0.	0.
Deaths of infants under 4 weeks of age.	-	0.	1.
Death Rate - all infants per 1000 live births.			16.9.
" " " " " " " " " "			
(In England & Wales)			24.9.
Legitimate infants per 1000 legitimate live births.			16.9.
Illegitimate infants per 1000 illegitimate live births.			Nil.
	M.	F.	Total.
Deaths from Cancer (all ages)	4.	3.	7.
Deaths from Measles (all ages)	0.	0.	0.
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages)	0.	0.	0.

The chief occupations of the district are cotton weaving, cotton bleaching and calico printing. These occupations have no pernicious effect on the health of the employees and the district as a whole maintained a good standard of health. There has been very little unemployment in the area during the year.

<u>Causes of death are classified as follows:-</u>	M.	F.	Total.
Tuberculosis.	0.	0.	0.
Diphtheria.	0.	0.	0.
Pneumonia.	1.	1.	2.
Whooping Cough.	0.	0.	0.
Measles.	0.	0.	0.
Bronchitis.	4.	0.	4.
Other Diseases of Respiratory System.	0.	0.	0.
Syphilitic Disease.	1.	0.	1.

	M.	F.	Total.
Malignant Neoplasm, Stomach.	0.	1.	1.
" " Breast.	0.	0.	0.
" " Bronchus.	2.	0.	2.
Other Malignant & Lymphatic Neoplasms.	2.	2.	4.
Vascular Lesions of Nervous System.	3.	7.	10.
Coronary Disease, Angina.	2.	3.	5.
Other Heart Disease.	4.	11.	15.
Other Circulatory Disease.	3.	3.	6.
Ulcer of Stomach & Duodenum.	0.	0.	0.
Gastritis, Enteritis & Diarrhoea.	0.	1.	1.
Nephritis.	1.	2.	3.
Congenital Malformations.	0.	0.	0.
Diabetes.	0.	0.	0.
Hyperplasia of Prostrate.	1.	0.	1.
Pregnancy, Childbirth, Abortion.	0.	0.	0.
Other defined and ill defined diseases.	5.	2.	7.
Motor Vehicle Accidents.	0.	0.	0.
Other Accidents.	0.	0.	0.
Suicide.	1.	1.	2.
	<u>30.</u>	<u>34.</u>	<u>64.</u>

Sanitary Circumstances of the Area.

Inspections throughout the area under the various Acts appertaining to Public Health were regularly carried out and any appropriate action taken when necessary.

Water Supply.

The water supply of the district is chiefly derived from springs the yields from which are collected into service reservoirs in various parts of the district, namely, Diglee, Foxhome, Stoneheads, Taxal and Leehead. These service reservoirs were emptied and cleaned out during the year.

The Council also take some water in bulk from the Stockport Corporation Goyt Reservoir through a connection from their 30" main at Horwich End. During the year under review the Council took 17,773,000 gallons of water from this source. Throughout the exceptionally dry summer and autumn great difficulty was experienced in maintaining supplies owing to the serious diminution of the spring yields and the limitation of storage capacity. Temporary connections were made which linked up the mains from the various sections of supply and enabled the supplies to be balanced and utilised to the fullest advantage. Even so it became increasingly difficult to maintain a normal water supply service.

In July, in order to eke out the rapidly diminishing supplies, restrictions on the use of water were imposed. Reserves continued to fall and on the 27th August it was found necessary between 7 p.m. and 7 a.m. daily to supply a greater area with water from the Stockport Corporation main, with the result that between those hours some of the most elevated properties on the Diglee and Leehead supply sections suffered a curtailment of supply.

During the year samples of water were taken at (a) the various reservoirs and (b) the points of delivery into houses from all sections of supply. These samples were submitted for bacteriological analyses, and the results showed the waters to be of satisfactory quality.

The number of houses supplied with water from the Council's mains was 1703 whilst 163 houses in the northern part of the district were supplied by Stockport Corporation through their mains from Kinder Reservoir.

Only nineteen houses have a private water supply and this total is mainly composed of isolated farm houses. All houses using the Council's water have a piped supply laid on to the premises.

Housing.

During the year the Council erected 11 Bungalows for aged persons. These bungalows were sited as follows :-

3. Buxton Road, Furness Vale.
4. Reservoir Road, Whaley Bridge.
4. Jodrell Meadow Road, Whaley Bridge.

This brings the number of post war houses erected in the area to 203. This figure includes the 10 Temporary Bungalows on the Park Road Estate, of which only six are in occupation, four having been demolished during the year under review.

It is hoped that the tenants of the remaining temporary bungalows will be provided with ~~suitable~~ alternative accommodation at an early date so that the site may be cleared and utilised for permanent housing.

Sewerage.

The Sewerage is conveyed through the Council's sewers to the sewerage disposal works at Furness Vale, the treatment being carried out under the control of the Whaley Bridge Joint Sewerage Board.

No complaints have been received concerning the discharged effluent in the River Goyt. The sewers have been maintained in good condition, cleansing and rodding being carried out when necessary. Practically the whole of the district is sewered, excepting Fernilee and Cadster Areas. Ten per cent (10%) test-baiting of sewer manholes in the district was again carried out in March to ascertain the extent of rat infestation, and only one area of infestation was noted and this was of a minor character. Disinfestation treatment of sewers was again undertaken in September.

Refuse Collection & Disposal.

The Council carried out the collection of refuse by direct labour with a modern refuse collection vehicle and a regular service was satisfactorily maintained.

The refuse was tipped on the Council's refuse tip at Fernilee.

Rag Flock Act.

There are no premises in the area where rag flock is manufactured, used or sold.

Factories Act.

Periodical inspections of premises coming within the jurisdiction of this act have shown sanitary conditions to be satisfactorily maintained.

Infectious and other Diseases.

The district was very free from any serious cases of infectious disease throughout the year. No cases of malaria or dysentery were notified and your district had no influenza epidemic. It is again significant that no cases of diphtheria were notified during the period under review, once again emphasising the value of the immunisation scheme of which great advantage has been taken.

No case of Poliomyelitis arose throughout the year nor was there notified a single case of Scarlet Fever.

Mass Radiography Unit.

The team from the North Western Region visited Whaley Bridge from the 13th to 21st July, 1955, and the response was extremely satisfactory. Extracts from the report submitted by the Medical Director and Organising Secretary read as follows :-

The number of examinees represented about 40% of the population available for X-Ray Examinations. Eleven local firms were approached and all co-operated. One of the firms, the Calico Printers' Association Ltd. provided the Unit with accommodation throughout the visit.

Details of persons examined are as follows :-

	Males.	Females.	Total.
School Children and Staff.	80.	27.	107.
Factory/Office Workers and General Public.	722.	808.	1,530.
Total.	802.	835.	1,637.

The value of the Survey is not measured exclusively in terms of the number of active infectious cases of tuberculosis discovered but also by the other abnormalities brought to light the early discovery of which leads to more efficient treatment.

Notifiable Diseases (other than Tuberculosis)

Notifiable Diseases.	Total	0	1	3	5	10	15	20	35	45	60	Hosp. Deaths.
	all ages.	1	3	5	10	15	20	35	45	60	Over.	
Smallpox.	Nil.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Scarlet Fever.	Nil.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Diphtheria.	Nil.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Enteric Fever (including paratyphoid)	Nil.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Puerperal Pyrexia.	Nil.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Pneumonia.	2.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-
Other Diseases generally notifiable :-	Nil.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Erysipelas.	1.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
Dysentery.	Nil.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ophthalmia Neonatorum.	Nil.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Measles.	34.	1	9	7	17	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Whooping Cough.	19.	-	6	4	8	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
Cerebro Spinal Fever.	Nil.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Polio-Myelitis.	Nil.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other Diseases notifiable locally.	Nil.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total.	56.	1	15	11	25	-	-	-	1	3	-	-

Tuberculosis - New Cases & Mortality, 1955.

	New Cases.				Deaths.			
	Respiratory.		Non-Resp.		Respiratory.		Non-Resp.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Under 1.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1 - 5.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5 - 15.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
15 - 25.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
25 - 35.	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
35 - 45.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
45 - 55.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
55. - 65.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
65 - Over.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total.	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-

I have the honour to be,


Mr. Chairman, Lady & Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

G. COCHRANE.

Medical Officer of Health.

20th September, 1956.



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WHALEY BRIDGE URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

SANITARY INSPECTOR'S REPORT ON THE SANITARY CONDITIONS OF THE DISTRICT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 1955

To the Chairman & Members of the
Whaley Bridge Urban District Council.

Mr. Chairman, Lady & Gentlemen,

I beg to present to you my Annual Report on the sanitary conditions and a brief summary of work done during the year ended 31st December, 1955.

Housing:

Number of houses in district at 31st December, 1954	-	1878
New houses erected during year by:-		
(a) Local Authority.	-	11
(b) Private Enterprise.	-	<u>1</u>
		1890
Number of houses demolished or closed during 1955	-	<u>5</u>
Number of houses capable of occupation	-	1885
Number of dwellinghouses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	-	101
Number of dwellinghouses found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for habitation	-	45
Number of dwellinghouses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation.	-	5
Number of defective dwellinghouses rendered fit in consequence of action by local authority (formal or informal)	-	40
Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made.	-	Nil..
Number of dwellings demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders.	-	Nil.
Number of dwellings in respect of which undertakings were accepted.	-	5.
Number of premises in respect of which Closing Orders were made.	-	Nil.

Closet Accommodation in the Area

Houses with pail closet accommodation.	-	32.
Houses with privy accommodation.	-	10.
Houses with W.C. closet accommodation.	-	1843.

Sanitary Inspections

Number of inspections made under Public Health, Housing Acts, etc.	-	971.
Defects or Nuisances:-		
Number discovered.	-	343.
Number abated with or without Notice.	-	332.
Number of Notices served:-		
Informal Notices.	-	114.
Statutory Notices.	-	4.
Legal Proceedings.	-	Nil.

Details of Inspections:-

Details of Inspections:-	Inspections.	Nuisances abated.
Defective Closet accommodation.	62.	43.
Defective Ashbins or Ashpits.	51.	27.
Drainage Defects.	137.	99.
Housing Repairs.	101.	40.
Offensive Accumulations.	9.	-
Urinals.	43.	1.
Flooding of Cellars.	9.	1.
Foul condition of houses.	3.	-
Animals improperly kept.	8.	1.
Water supply.	169.	72.
Bakchouses.	16.	1.
Factories & Workshops.	89.	2.
Shops & Food Premises.	94.	-
Rodent Control.	83.	27.
Other Inspections.	127.	18.

Drainage.

Number of houses in district connected to sewers	--	1715.
Number of houses in district not connected to sewers	-	175.
Number of connections made during year.	-	12.

Food Inspection

During the year the following foodstuffs were voluntarily surrendered and condemned as unfit for human consumption:-

6 tins Tomatoes.	282 tins Baby Foods.
12 tins Peaches.	5 tins Corned Beef.
3 tins Gooseberries.	3 tins Condensed Milk.
6 tins Pears.	44 lbs. Beef.
3 tins Apricots.	4 tins Soup.
5 tins mixed Fruits.	8 tins Sardines.
2 tins Stewed Steak.	2 tins Carrots.
2 boxes Kippers.	3 tins Ham.
2 tins Evap. Milk.	1 tin Tongue.

Water Statistics

Details of the Council's water service reservoirs are as follows:-

	<u>Storage</u>	
Lochhead Reservoir.	1,250,000	gallons.
Taxal Reservoir.	20,000	"
Digloo Reservoir.	247,000	"
Foxhome Reservoir.	100,000	"
Stone Heads Reservoir.	<u>200,000</u>	"
	1,817,000	"

Estimated
population involved.

Number of houses in district connected to mains.	1866.	5239.
Number of houses supplied from standpipes on		
mains.	Nil.	Nil.
Number of houses not supplied from standpipes		
or mains.	19.	61.
Number of connections made during year:-		
(a) New houses.	12.	
(b) Other premises.	2.	

I am, Mr. Chairman, Lady & Gentlemen,
Your obedient Servant,

A. McLANE,

12th September, 1956.

Sanitary Inspector.

